

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 CU-02 SP-02 INR-05 NSC-05 NSCE-00

L-01 SCS-01 SCA-01 PPT-01 H-01 CIAE-00 /042 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE - NGANDREWS/TPHDUNLOP:MD

APPROVED BY EUR - JAARMITAGE

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P 141338Z FLB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 034268

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CPAS, OEXC, RO (VROMAN, ROBERT)

SUBJECT: PROTECTION AND WELFARE (VROMAN, ROBERT)

REF: STATE 30747

1. ON FEBRUARY 12 DEPARTMENT (ANDREWS) CALLED IN ROMANIAN CHARGE IONITA AND INFORMED HIM OF OUR SERIOUS CONCERN AT CHARGES OF ESPIONAGE AND TRANSMISSION OF STATE SECRETS BROUGHT AGAINST U.S. EXCHANGE PROFESSOR VROMAN. DEPARTMENT NOTED THAT VROMAN RECEIVED MISADDRESSED LETTER IN SEATTLE IN MID-JANUARY FROM MILITARY TRIBUNAL IN BUCHAREST WITH STAMP OF MINISTRY OF JUSTICE ON IT INVITING HIM TO APPEAR FEBRUARY 6 TO RESPOND TO CHARGES UNDER ARTICLE 159 OF ROMANIAN PENAL CODE. VROMAN HAD NO IDEA WHAT ARTICLE 159 WAS ALL ABOUT AND WROTE EMBASSY FOR INFORMATION. NATURE OF CHARGES IS STILL UNCLEAR TO US. NOTING EMBASSY'S DEMARCHES MFA JUSTICE AND INTERIOR, DEPARTMENT OBSERVED THAT MFA WAS COMPLETELY UNINFORMED OF THE MATTER ALTHOUGH U.S. CITIZEN WAS OBVIOUSLY INVOLVED. IONITA WAS TOLD WE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND HOW THE ROMANIAN MANNER OF HANDLING

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THIS CASE COULD BENEFIT U.S.-ROMANIAN RELATIONS, ESPECIALLY WHEN WE HAD JUST SIGNED A CULTURAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND WHEN WE WERE ENGAGED IN SENSITIVE NEGOTIATIONS ON A TRADE AGREEMENT AIMED AT FURTHER EXPANDING OUR RELATIONS

WHICH WOULD REQUIRE THE SUPPORT AND APPROVAL OF CONGRESS. THE TRIAL AND CONVICTION OF VROMAN, WHEN IT BECAME KNOWN TO U.S. PUBLIC OPINION AND ACADEMIC CIRCLES, WHICH WAS PROBABLY INEVITABLE, WAS BOUND TO LEAVE A VERY NEGATIVE IMPACT. DEPARTMENT COULD ONLY WISH THAT ENTIRE MATTER COULD BE PUT ASIDE. IONITA WAS ASKED TO CONVEY VERY SERIOUS VIEW WE TOOK OF THIS CASE.

2. IONITA REPLIED THAT HE KNEW NOTHING OF THE DETAILS OF THE CASE BUT WOULD RELAY DEPARTMENT'S CONCERN AND REQUEST CLARIFICATION.

3. EARLIER IN THE DAY DEPARTMENT OFFICER HAD MENTIONED VROMAN MATTER TO ROMANIAN CONSUL EDU WHO SAID HE HAD RECEIVED VROMAN'S LETTER (COPY POUCHED) AND HAD ALREADY QUERIED BUCHAREST TELEGRAPHICALLY. ONLY COMMENT EDU MADE WAS THAT VROMAN "OF COURSE COULD HIRE A LAWYER IN BUCHAREST TO REPRESENT HIM." INGERSOLL

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* LIMDIS  
\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** STATE 30747  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <21 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971002  
**Subject:** PROTECTION AND WELFARE (VROMAN, ROBERT)  
**TAGS:** CPAS, OEXC, PFOR, RO, (VROMAN, ROBERT)  
**To:** BUCHAREST  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006